

## STATE FOREST REGULATIONS

5026

(May 1988)

The department should not be engaged primarily in the maintenance of camping grounds or attendant facilities, but these operations are necessary and incidental to the protection and management of state forests. Because persons do camp and otherwise use state forests for recreation, this use creates fire, safety, and health hazards that can be controlled only by adoption of appropriate regulations. The board has adopted regulations for recreational use of state forests that are incorporated in 14 CCR §1400, et. seq. Adoption of these regulations and specifying camping areas does not imply that camping or use of state forests for recreational purposes is a matter of right to anyone, or that any particular area is dedicated, at any time, permanently for that purpose. These regulations were not adopted to harass the public, but to provide the department with necessary authority to protect the forest and the public.

A poster, "Rules For the Use of State Forests," (item 22-69) has been printed for posting where the public congregate in state forests, to acquaint them with state forest regulations. See [Section 5051.2](#) of this handbook.

The region chief will officially designate the "State Forest Manager," who, in turn, will designate others to act in his/her absence. This will be done for each state forest in the region whether the forest has a regular staff or not. Where no staff exists, a state forest ranger-in-charge, district ranger, or other person may be designated.

Similarly, the region chief will designate appropriate employees as "State Forest Officers" for each state forest. The responsibility for enforcing the regulations rests with the state forest manager and the designated state forest officers. To avoid misunderstandings, the region chief, state forest manager, and local state forest ranger should have a mutual understanding of the responsibility for enforcing regulations in state forests. Any person may be designated a state forest officer, whether his/her regular duties are on or off the state forest.

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